Free flow of supply of LPG Cylinders

3453. SHRI S.K.T. RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a free flow of supply of L.P.G. Cylinders to the retail dealers;

(b) whether Government have received any complaints from the consumers against the dealers for delayed supply of Gas cylinders; if so, what action has been taken against the defaulters; and

(c) whether Government propose to issue notices to all dealers warning them that stringent action would be taken against those who take premium over and above the price of the cylinders while supplying them to the consumers?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Generally, there is no delay in supply of LPG cylinders to distributors by the Oil Companies.

(b) and (c) Some complaints are received from consumers about delay in supply of LPG cylinders. Corrective action is taken by Oil Companies against defaulting distributors under the Marketing Discipline Guidelines.

Proposals for utilisation of the Gas

3454. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) how much of gas from Bombay High and other Oil fields in Gujarat and elsewhere in liquid petroleum equivalent, is flared up per year;

(b) what are the proposals under consideration for utilisation of the gas reserve being flared up; and

(c) whether any basic guidelines favouring local or nearest to the source utilisation instead of transportation through pipelines or otherwise at high cost, have been adopted, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b) Except for technical flaring, there is currently no flaring of gas in the Bombay High field in the Western offshore. In Gujarat, the current flaring of gas is approx. 0.5 MMSCMD valued at about Rs. 8 lakhs per day. The gas being flared has already been allocated to various consumers for utilisation after provision of facilities to compress and transport this gas.

(c) Gas produced offshore required to be transported through pipelines before it can be utilised onshore. Gas produced onshore is being utilised in areas close to its source, as far as possible.

Installation of an extraction unit at the thermal springs of Barkeswar, West Bengal

@3454-A. DR. R.K. PODDAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether helium gas has been found at the thermal springs of Barkeswar in West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal to set up an extraction unit at the thermal springs of Barkeswar power plant, West Bengal to strap the valuable gas; and

(d) if so, what steps are being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) No Hydrocarbon reserves have been found.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

@Previously Unstarred Question 3327, Transferred from 15th December, 1992.